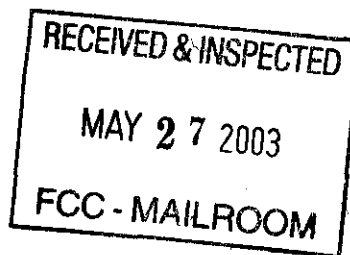


Confirmed
MAY 28 2003
Dear FCC,
Distribution Center



EX PARTE OR LATE FILE

April 27, 2003

I am writing to register my concern over the proposal the FCC is voting on June 2 to relax media ownership rules. Since the rules were relaxed last time, I have seen several of my favorite local stations disappear as they were gobbled up by huge mega media conglomerates. If the FCC continues to relax the ownership rules, it will soon become even worse. The FCC mission is supposed to be promoting the public interest. The public interest is not served when the majority of radio and television stations are run on autopilot from some remote media headquarters hundreds or thousands of miles away. And it is not served when the only voices we hear are the voices of a small number of huge corporations that have been able to buy up all the stations. We need to have MORE voices on the public airwaves, not less. A democracy ceases to be a democracy when the people cannot hear differing views and make informed decisions on the issues. Media information has an overwhelming impact on people's political decisions. When you restrict the information by letting a few large corporations control what we hear, democracy suffers. Most people don't even know this vote is coming up because the media is already largely corporate controlled and they don't want us to know about it, so they don't tell us. One of the FCC commissioners held a public hearing in San Francisco yesterday to help inform the public, and the only television camera there was from an independent television station. The only radio station to cover it was a publicly supported one.

It is also important that the public be informed on local issues, not just national ones. We need to have locally run stations that have actual local people working in local news departments. It has even become a safety issue as one Midwestern community found out when a train full of poison chemicals derailed nearby and no one was home to answer the phone or broadcast warnings at any of the remotely run corporate media stations. Also, people lose jobs when companies consolidate.

Please do not allow the ownership rules to be relaxed further.

Sincerely,

Sonia Fletcher
7 Redwood Dr.
San Rafael, CA 94901

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sonia Fletcher", is written over the printed name.

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

MAY 28 2003



Close

From: Marjorie Vangsness
To: 'fccinfo@fcc.gov'
Cc:
Subject: Proposed changes in media ownership
Sent: 5/15/2003 8:54 PM

RECEIVED & INSPECTED

MAY 27 2003

FCC - MAILROOM

Importance: Normal

Dear Members of the FCC,

I am very much concerned about the proposed changes in media ownership which your commission will be voting on this June 2, 2003.

Our Emeritus College Book Seminar group just finished studying the book, THE NEWS ABOUT THE NEWS by Kaiser and Downie. We learned there how much our newspapers and TV stations are controlled by a small number of corporate owners that force them to keep presenting the news in such a way as to realize the most profit for stockholders, and not necessarily the way that news should be available to us as citizens of our democratic society. If the current limits on block ownership are relaxed so that even broader monopolies can be realized, we will be even more deprived of a diversity of points of view in the news we receive. Americans who spend time in Europe have their viewpoints enriched by the news about us in the U.S. which they hear broadcast in other countries. They have great difficulty receiving that kind of variety in our own country. Why should I have to tune in to BBC in order to learn what is going on in my own country? Corporate control of our newspapers and TV channels forces me to just that.

Please do not relax the limits of what any one individual or company can own and control of our media outlets. If anything, the limits should be even more constricted than they are now.

Sincerely, Marjorie Vangsness, OP
 Marywood, 2025 East Fulton St.
 Grand Rapids, MI 49503-3895
 mvangsness@grdominicans.org

Dear Members of the FCC,

May 19, 2003

This letter is being sent to you in desperation. My email letter quoted above was referred back to me with directions of how to communicate with you through some other channel. When I tried to phone you, I was put through a succession of messages of which buttons to press and I arrived nowhere that gave me a chance to talk about the rules on which you will be voting on June 2, 2003. Please make any telecom reform contain the necessary checks and balances to protect consumers and discourage monopolies.

Marjorie Vangsness, OP
<https://mail.grdominicans.org/exchange/forms/IPM/NOTE/read.asp?command=open&obj...> 5/19/2003

HAMILTON Internet RELAY™

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Relay **YOUR** Way is now on the Web!

www.hiprelay.com

The free, fast and totally "hip" way to access relay!

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Hamilton Relay Service proudly announces the availability of Hamilton Internet Protocol (HIP) Relay! If you have Internet access, you can log on to www.hiprelay.com, and communicate through relay with **anyone, anywhere!** Today, Hamilton Relay provides traditional relay service to six states. HIP Relay gives you a new way to connect to the relay! Now you can access the relay by logging onto the Internet at www.hiprelay.com.

In the past, relay users were required to use the relay provider as chosen by their State. Internet Relay gives you freedom of choice allowing you to select your preferred relay provider. Although HIP Relay was the not first Internet Relay available in the U.S., you will find that HIP Relay was worth the wait. This is largely based upon Hamilton's customization of its relay service to meet your individual needs. HIP Relay offers you a unique combination of world-class telecommunications technology and unmatched personal service.

When you log-on to Hamilton Internet Relay (www.hiprelay.com) you will enjoy the following benefits and have your calls relayed **YOUR** way:

- **You choose** how to send your conversation to the CA. Text can be sent two different ways with HIP Relay - "TTY Emulate" or "send by enter". HIP Relay's TTY Emulate feature sends text as it is being typed, very similar to a traditional TTY. You can also send text to the CA by hitting "Enter" on your keyboard. This allows you to type and edit your message before sending it to the CA, similar to Instant Messaging. **Another great feature of HIP Relay is that the CA can type what the voice person is saying at the same time you are typing. This creates a more natural flow of conversation and speeds up your call even more!**
- **You choose** when you want to make a "Quick Call" without giving the CA instructions or when you want the CA to follow your specific instructions by using the "Make A Call" link.
- **You can customize** your calls using your "Customer Profile". HIP Relay allows you to completely personalize YOUR relay service YOUR way. With Hamilton Relay's Customer Profile, your instructions for the CA and your calling preferences will be followed on every call - even when you use HIP Relay to place your relay calls!
- **You enjoy conversations more.** Thanks to Hamilton's Internet technology, you connect faster, which saves you time.
- **You save money** because there are no long distance telephone charges within the fifty United States!

<http://www.hiprelay.com>

HAMILTON Internet RELAY™

- **You can make multiple calls** at the same time. Using HIP Relay, you can open your Internet browser again, log on to www.hiprelay.com and make another call! There are no limits on the length of your calls or how many calls you make.

In addition to all the benefits listed above, when you connect with HIP Relay, you enjoy an array of user-friendly features designed to let you customize your call including:

- Calling instructions
- English or Spanish language
- Font size option
- Font color option
- Print and save option
- Copy/paste into text box
- Place calls to any standard telephone user, VCO user or HCO user
- Responsive, helpful 24 hour Customer Service
- Online feedback form
- HIP Insiders

HIP Relay is very easy to use. HIP Relay provides you reliable service and your calls are processed by Hamilton's experienced, professional CAs. Hamilton Internet Relay – YOUR relay, YOUR way.

Hamilton Internet Relay is available to you NOW—so log-on to www.hiprelay.com to experience the free, fast and totally hip way to access the relay! We look forward to serving you with HIP Relay – Relay Your WaySM on the Web.

Sincerely,

Dixie Ziegler
Director of Relay

P.S. Join the HIP Insiders! "HIP Insiders" are kept informed of the latest HIP Relay developments and special opportunities. Add your name to our e-mail list for the latest news and updates. To become a member of our "HIP Insiders" group, simply e-mail us at:

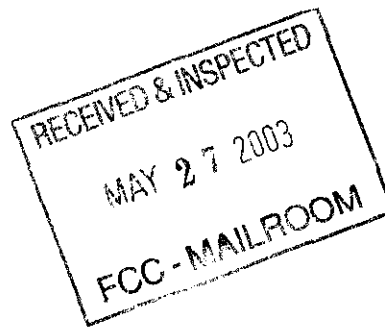
hipinsiders2@hamilton.net

Try it out. You'll discover that Hamilton Internet Relay is the hippest bookmark on your browser!

<http://www.hiprelay.com>

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Confirmed
MAY 28 2003
Distribution Center



05-15-03

1412 S. Erie Street
Bay City, MI 48706-5126

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Sirs

I urge you to promote a diverse, balanced, and competitive media. Please do not make a rule change in favor of Media giants on June 2. I am disheartened that the Bush Administration has bent over backwards to help the large corporations at the expense of the common working people of our country. I hope that you will have the courage and good sense to oppose this business oriented administration on this issue.

Our government allows media companies to use the airwaves in exchange for their assurance that they're serving the public interest, and it's the FCC's job to make sure that's so. I hope you will please hold to this mandate and oppose any new rule change which could allow our local TV stations, newspaper, radio stations, and cable provider to all be owned by one company. NBC, ABC, CBS and Fox could have the same corporate parent. I feel there is too much concentration of media ownership already and further concentration of ownership resulting from such a law change could be deeply destructive to our democracy.

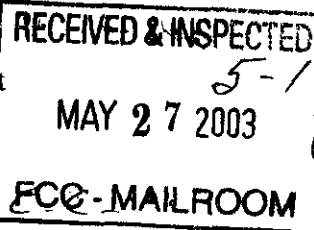
Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carole M. Stow".

Carole M. Stow
1412 S. Erie Street
Bay City, MI 48706
ditobonai@chartermi.net

Mr. Frank Nolden
303 Chimney Rock S
Lufkin, TX 75904

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED



02-217

Jonathan S. Adelstein, F

Per the enclosed card, please, no more dialateral monopolies or near monopolies.

Next, What it was is small it really irritates me. What was is the rationale and authority for the "Al Lone" telephone tax? I thought all tax, revenue bills were required to originate in the House of Representatives! In my wildest imagination I couldn't visualize a Govt. Agency having tax authority!

Next - Cell phones. The first cell phone I put had was a bag phone. Worked great and we could hear it ring driving down the road in our motor home, but not convenient to carry around. So we bought a small compact model, but can't hear it ring in the motor home. So I wanted to use the bag phone in the motor home and carry the small one around. I talked to several mobile phone companies and they all said "the FCC" would only allow one phone per number. WHY? What do you (F.C.C.) care. Regardless of the reasoning, this ruling is strictly for the benefit of the industry. One phone

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per line, means more lines, and more confusion with two different cell phone numbers. But who cares as long as the phone companies make more money!

Next - Now I understand the F.C.C. has issued an "edict" requiring, in the near future that all new T.V.s must be digital. Again, WHY? From my own personal experience with DVD and my digital hearing aids, digital just ain't that great. I can't see where it is any better! So why stick the public with more expense? Digital, whether we want it or not! Why not just let competition take care of the matter?

Next, why let the T.V. cable companies carry whatever they want to but restrict the satellite companies from local channels.

It appears the F.C.C. continually favors industry over the paying public.

I lump the F.C.C. right along with the U.S. Army Engineering Corps and the Texas State Dept. of Transportation (Highway Dept.) in that they do as they please and apparently answer to no one.

Frank T. Holden

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED



Mr. Frank Nolden
303 Chimney Rock St
Lufkin, TX 75904

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MAY 27 2003

FCC - MAILROOM

Michael J. Copps, FCC

Per the enclosed card. Please, no
more dictatorial monopolies or near
monopolies. 02-277

Also, What was the rationale and
authority for the "Al Gore" telephone
tax? I thought all tax or revenue
bills must originate in the U.S. House
of Representatives! I can't imagine a
Govt. agency having taxing authority!

Cell phones - The first cell phone
I had was a bag phone. Later, I/we
wanted a smaller phone to ~~car~~ carry
around. The trouble is can't/couldn't
hear it ring while driving down the
road in our motor home. We could
hear the bag phone. So I wanted to use
the bag phone in the motor home and the
small one to carry around. I talked to
several mobile phone companies and they
all said that the F.C.C. would only
allow one phone per number. Regardless
of the reasoning, that ruling is strictly
for the industry to require ~~and~~ an
additional line for each additional phone.
More money in their pocket. (and to keep
with the public)

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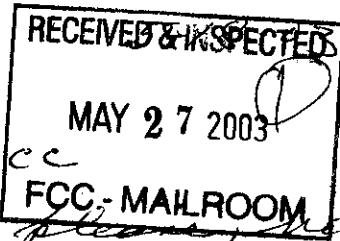
Now, I understand the F.C.C. has issued an "edict" requiring, in the near future, that all new T.V.s ~~support~~, be digital. From my own personal experience with DVD and my digital hearing aids, digital just ain't that great. It leaves a lot to be desired. So - why stick the public with more expense? Especially, when it is little or no better than what we have!

Also, why don't you (the F.C.C.) allow the satellite companies to carry all local channels the same as the cable companies?

It appears the F.C.C. is favoring the industry and couldn't care less about the general public, (the ones that pay the bills).

I lump the F.C.C. right along with the U.S. Army Engineering Corps, and the Texas Dept. of Transportation, (Highway Dept.) in that they do as the please, and apparently answer to no one.

Frank J. Holden



Mrs. Kathleen G. Aarnally, FCC

Per the enclosed card, please, do

more monopolies or new monopolies.

Also what was the rationale and authority for the "Al Gore" telephone tax? I thought all tax or revenue bills originate in the House of Representatives. I can't imagine a Govt. Agency having tax authority!

Cell phones - The first cell phone I had was a bag phone. Later, I wanted a smaller, compact phone to carry around. The trouble is we can't hear it ring while driving down the road in our motor home. We could hear the bag phone. So I wanted to use the bag phone in the motor home and the small one to carry around. I talked to several mobile phone companies and they all said the F.C.C. would only allow one phone per number. Regardless of the reasoning that ruling is strictly for the industry, to require ~~and~~ an additional line for an additional phone. More money in their pocket.

Now I understand the F.C.C. has issued an "order" regarding in the

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near future, that all new T.V.'s must be digital. From what I have personally experienced with DVD and my digital hearing aids, the "state of the art" leaves a lot to be desired. So why stick the public with more expense. Especially for something very little (if any) better than what we have?

Also why don't you allow the satellite broadcast (DirecTV) systems to carry all local programs the same as the cable companies?

It appears to me that the F.C.C. is favoring the industry and couldn't care less about what the public wants!

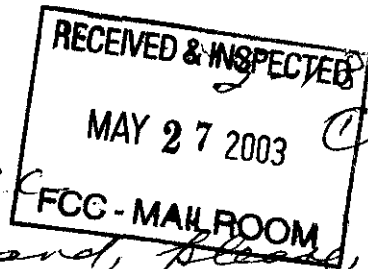
I lump the F.C.C. along with the U.S. Army Engineering Corp. and the Texas Department of Transportation, (Highway Dept.) in that they do as they please, and apparently answer to no one.

Frank T. Nolder



Mr. Frank Nolden
303 Chimney Rock St
Lufkin, TX 75904

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03

02-27

Kevin J. Martin, FCC

Per the enclosed card, please, no more oligatored monopolies or near monopolies.

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JUN 03 2003

Distribution Center

Also, while it was small, it really irritated me. What was in the national end authority for the "at Home" telephone tax? I thought all tax (revenue) bills were required to originate in the House of Representatives! I can't imagine a Govt. Agency having taxing authority!

Cell phones - The first cell phone I had was a bag phone. Later we wanted a smaller compact phone that you could carry around we conveniently. The trouble is, you can't hear it ring driving down the road in our motor home. We could hear the bag phone ring.

So I wanted to use the bag phone in the motor home and the smaller one to carry around. I talked to several mobile phone companies and they all said "the FCC" would only allow one phone per number. What do you care. Regardless of the reasoning, this ruling is strictly for the benefit of the industry, requiring an additional line and the confusion

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of two different cell phone numbers.
Just more money in the phone cos.
pockets. (To heck with the ones
paying the bills).

Now, I understand the F.C.C. has
issued an 'edict' requiring, in the
near future, that all new TVs must be
digital. WHY? From my own
personal experience with DVD and my
digital hearing aids, digital just
"aint" that great. And I can't see where
it is any advantage at all! So why
stick the public with more expense.
If it is that great, let the competition
take care of it.

Further why restrict the satellite
T.V. people from carrying all local
channels, allowing the cable companies
an unfair advantage.

It appears that the F.C.C. continually
favors industry at the expense of the
public. I lump the F.C.C. right along
with the U.S. Army Engineering Corps, in
that it does as it pleases, (or as pleases
the industry) and apparently answers
to no one.

Frank J. Nolder

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JUN 03 2003

The Honorable Michael K. Powell
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street
Washington, D.C. 20554

Distribution Center

02-217

May 18, 2003

Dear Sir:

I write with the experience of eleven years working as Assistant News Director for a southeast Florida NBC affiliate station. This work period occurred in the 1960's and early 1970's. You should recall that this was a time when network stations did a pretty good job of reporting the news factually and when editorial comment was clearly labeled. This also was an era when individuals with opposing views could obtain free airtime to voice their opinions.

Times have changed. The networks convinced regulators that providing free airtime for editorial response wasn't necessary. TV news gradually gravitated away from responsible journalism into show business. Appearance and a gift for gab became more important than the ability to dig up a news story and report it accurately.

Today editorial comment is mixed with news stories that may be accurate or that may be slanted to reflect the opinion of the on-air personality or that of the network. Individuals or organizations with views in opposition to that of the personality or the network frequently find it difficult or impossible to present their story to the American people.

Recent campaign reforms further gag those with views contrary to those expressed by the networks.

I submit that the proposal to relax restrictions on station ownership will compound problems that already exist. Diversity of ownership does provide viewers with diversity of opinion. When media giants buy out small ownership groups, this diversity will disappear.

I do not know your stance on this issue, but you now know mine and I hope you will oppose this change in ownership regulations.

Sincerely,



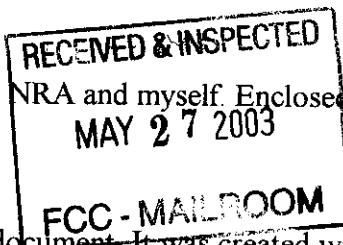
Charles E. Norton
5456 Brewer Rd.
Manning, SC 29102

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EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Dear FCC board member,

I am writing to this to all board members on behalf of the NRA and myself. Enclosed please find my NRA postcard that addresses the concerns of the NRA. My personal feelings on this matter are as follows.



02-277

I have long thought our Constitution to be an incredible document. It was created with foresight that almost makes me believe the founders were more than just human. The human part is their failure to predict the appearance of massive media conglomerates and the threat they would present to the First Amendment.

I believe they thought information would be constantly a matter of small presses producing the very personal flow of verbal democracy. I wonder how they would feel about the almost strangling grip on information that is held by the giant media conglomerates of today. Especially, in light of the powerful inter-reaction between government and the people who report on it.

As a gun owner and active competitive pistol shooter, I have been witness to the shoddy reporting on the true facts of "gun violence". I can tell you that as a plain citizen with a computer and the ability to read I could counter with real facts almost any argument made by the anti-gun lobby. But paid journalists could not seem to find and report on the same data I could locate in a matter of minutes. I frequently saw "facts" that I knew from reading government sources were not correct. I will remind you that these "news stories" were the information many citizens were using to help them decide about a gun policy for this country. And that information was fraudulent.

How many other issues have we been misled on by the media conglomerates? Would you not agree this is poor stewardship of our First Amendment rights?

Can we expect this situation to improve if an even smaller group of people who believe they know what is best for this country control an ever-wider amount of the information spectrum?

At one time, and perhaps even now, Mr. Eisner controlled 40% of every thing we saw in news, entertainment, and educational outlets. At any moment he has the power to bombard America with his opinions cloaked within the power of these diverse elements. That is a situation that is too dangerous to allow to continue.

Here is something else to consider. When the FCC and President Clinton were considering offering wider broadcast spectrum for high bids there were several reports bringing the news of the government selling the public airwaves. But with the day of decision approaching in less than a month I have heard not one story about the possible consolidation of the power of a few major media outlets. If not for the NRA I bet most of us would have heard nothing even after this happened.

Please do everything you can to broaden the ownership of as many media outlets as possible to force competition and raise the quality of the information we receive. Please do not adopt any changes to the Broadcast Ownership Rules that would increase the power of these media conglomerates.

Thank you,

Charles Vandenberg
1872 Orchard Lane NE
Grand Rapids MI 49505

Cc: Congressman Ehlers
Senators Levin and Stabenow

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JUN 03 2003
Distribution Center

I apologize, but there is an addendum to this. Tonight on Sunday 6pm news ABC/Disney, Mr. Eisner's corporation, ran a story about the anticipated rules changes. In this story they presented the changes as a crisis of lost local small radio stations, (which is true). Interestingly, there is no mention of their ever-stronger control over broadcast outlets that could come with these changes as well.

Given that radio is killing the TV people's strangle hold on opinion making I would say this report was incredibly self-serving and bias. Even more it is clear evidence that the media giants play too fast and loose with our precious freedom of speech.

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MAY 27 2003

FBI ROOM

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Charles VandenBerg
1872 Orchard Lane NE
Grand Rapids MI 49505

Cc: Congressman Ehlers
Senators Levin and Stabenow

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JUN 03 2003

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MAY 27 2003

FCC - MAILROOM

02-201

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Thank you,

Charles Vandenberg
1872 Orchard Lane NE
Grand Rapids MI 49505

Confirmed

JUN 03 2003

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List ABCDE

Cc: Congressman Ehlers
Senators Levin and Stabenow

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